



CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

# **2013 Building Energy Efficiency Standards Nonresidential Acceptance Testing Certification**

## **Adoption Hearing**

Martha Brook  
High Performance Buildings and Standards Development Office  
California Energy Commission

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## Scope of Proposed Regulations

These proposed amendments to the Building Energy Efficiency Standards will:

- Add the requirement that acceptance tests for nonresidential lighting controls and mechanical systems in our Title-24 Energy Efficiency Standards be completed by certified field technicians
- Adopt training and certification requirements for acceptance testing technician certification providers



## Background

In September 2011 the California Commissioning Collaborative, under contract to the Energy Commission, completed a report documenting the enforcement and effectiveness of the Title 24 nonresidential mechanical acceptance testing.

- Building departments are understaffed and cannot adequately review the compliance forms that document the acceptance tests;
- The mechanical contractors who regularly test and balance HVAC systems had access to, and adequate experience with the measurement equipment needed to properly conduct the tests;
- Mechanical contractors who were not familiar with the acceptance tests and the measurement equipment were not able to successfully complete the tests.



## Background

November 3, 2011 and October 25, 2011 - Letters from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the California Local Unions of Sheet Metal Workers requested that the Energy Commission consider adding certification requirements for technicians performing nonresidential lighting and HVAC acceptance tests in the 2013 Standards Update

The Energy Commission found merit in these suggestions and undertook this rulemaking to develop these proposed Nonresidential Acceptance Testing Certification requirements that, if adopted, will reside in Title-24, Parts 1 and 6.



## Benefits of Proposed Regulations

- The majority of the energy savings expected from the 2013 Standards update are attributable to the lighting and mechanical system efficiency requirements in nonresidential buildings.
- These regulations will significantly improve the quality of the nonresidential lighting controls and mechanical acceptance tests.



## Benefits of Proposed Regulations

- The building code enforcement community will benefit from acceptance test technicians being trained to complete these field inspections.
- Building owners will benefit by having their building energy systems properly commissioned by certified professionals.
- These requirements will ensure annual savings of approximately 180 GWh and 3.3 M therms.
- Over 30 years, these energy savings will equal the energy needed to power almost 1 million homes.